



**Kingston Conservation Advisory Council  
Monthly Meeting, City Hall Conference Room 1  
MINUTES**

**Date: April 14, 2015 6:30-8:30pm**

**Council Members:** Julie Noble (Chair), Emilie Hauser (Vice-Chair), Kevin McEvoy (Secretary), Elizabeth Broad, Lynn Johnson, Casey Schwarz, Lauren Laibach (Pending, not attending), Caitlin Zinsley (Pending not attending)

**Guest:** Brad Will, Council Member Ward 3, Mathew Akin (CAC Mapping Intern)

- I. **Welcome Guests and Public Comment:** The meeting was called to order by the chair at 6:37PM and Kingston Common Council Member Brad Will was welcomed.
- II. **Review and Approval March 2015 Meeting Minutes:** Upon motion duly made by Casey and seconded by Lynn, the minutes to the March 2015 meeting as amended were approved the council unanimously.
- III. **Old Business**
  1. **City Styrofoam/Plastic Bag proposed legislation:** Kingston Common Council Member Brad Will reviewed and discussed with the council a proposal for local legislation to ban plastic bags. The discussion included a review of such a resolution to ban plastic bags in Flagstaff Arizona, plastic bag recycling options and a recently passed Ulster County resolution regarding a polystyrene or styrofoam ban known as Local Law 12 of 2014 "A Local Law No. 12 of 2014, A Local Law Regulating The Use Of Polystyrene Foam Disposable Food Service Ware By Food Service Establishments In Ulster County" under which fast food establishments will have six months to comply and smaller food establishments will be given 12 months to comply. Common Council Member Will formally asked the Council to review a plastic bag resolution and will forward documents and research for plastic bag legislation for consideration by CAC. As an action item Betta will contact County Legislator MannaJo Greene regarding any proposed county action on plastic bags as a first step in a CAC review while Common Council Member Will shall be a liaison with the Ulster County Legislature and other Common Council members. And Julie will contact Ulster Resource Recovery Agency (UCRRA).

**Link to the Ulster County legislation is below:**  
<http://ulstercountyny.gov/sites/default/files/Proposed%20Local%20Law%20No.%2012%20of%202014%20-%20Regulating%20Polystyrene%20Foam%20Use.pdf>
  2. **Natural Resources Inventory:** This is Matt's final regular Council meeting as his internship ends in early May. There will be one more special meeting on May 4<sup>th</sup> to review maps and for Matt to instruct the CAC on how to use ESRI GIS tools.
    - a. **Map Review:** The Council reviewed various parts of the map package for consistency, comprehension, clarity, gaps and discussed credits and disclaimers, Specific maps discussed included Forsythe Park, numerous updates including, but not limited to, Aquifers, Bedrock, Connectivity, Open Space, Kingston Point Park, Kingston Recreation with all feature

points rather than just playgrounds, Soils, Surficial Geology, Water Quality, Potential and Sources of Contamination which requires additional review with regards to remediated sites and brownfields with Julie to review salt stockpile areas, abandoned landfills, and junkyards, Kingston Watersheds & Catchments which still needs review of the various orders against the Milone & MacBroom documents and the Rondout Watershed Map, addition of demographic layer to consider some US Census some economic data and ward boundaries and Cultural/Historic, Greenline and Complete Streets which Kevin will review with Matt. Regarding disclaimers and credits it was discussed to include to the extent possible the date and data sources and use language similar to the Hudsonia Habitat map for disclaimer language.

- b. Text: Scope of text and interpretation and consistency with municipal plans was tabled together with Next Steps which will include finalizing, sharing and public review.

- 3. **PCB Resolution action:** Manna Jo Greene spoke at Public Safety Committee on March 25 regarding the resolution. The resolution was brought before the council and passed in April.

#### IV. New Business

The US Geological Survey (USGS) has removed the stream gauge on Rondout Creek near the Hudson River Maritime Museum due to lack of funding. Inconsistency of this action with the Planning for Rising Waters Tidal Waterfront Report recommendations #20 & 22 was discussed. See text below:

“20. Collaborate with other waterfront communities and county and state government to plan for coastal hazards like sea-level rise and storm surge.”

“22. Employ new tools to improve real time emergency management planning.”

See USGS link below:

[http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?site\\_no=01372007](http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?site_no=01372007)

#### V. Announcements/Communications

- 1. **Green Friday:** The event is to be held April 24 at Forsythe Park. Link is below:

<http://www.kingstonhappenings.org/events/green-friday-a-sustainability-fair-at-forsyth-nature-center/>

- 2. **Hudson Valley Environmental Champions:** Award nominations are open with announcements on April 24. Link is below:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/1d591e281acfd8fa85257e31005b3a14!opendocument>

- 3. **Kingston Kinderland II:** The new playground in coordination with the Junior League is scheduled from April 22 to 26 to be put up by volunteers including Emilie’s son. Link is below:

<http://www.juniorleaguekingston.org/programs/projects/kinderland-ii/>

- 4. **Green Infrastructure & Urban Revitalization Workshop:** This workshop will be held April 22 in Newburgh with Emilie among the presenters. Link is below:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/green-infrastructure-urban-revitalization-tickets-6947284515>

- 5. **Solarize Kingston:** Betta reported that Solarize will be featured on Green Friday and that a press event is scheduled for May 6 with a event at Keegan Ale’s 2-4PM on May 9.

~~Casey is drafting a CAC endorsement document to be distributed to CAC members.~~

Links to the events below:

<http://heyevent.com/event/648926108574282/solarize-kingston-meet-the-installers-volunteer-orientation>

<http://heyevent.com/event/827025507378676/solarize-kingston-launch-party-community-workshop>

**6.Reducing Community Transportation Emissions Webinar:** Kevin attended this webinar on April 9 that discussed in detail electronic vehicles and municipal options for charging stations. Link is below:

<http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/NYSDEC/bulletins/fa3e19>

**VI. Old Business**

1. **EMC Liaison:** Emilie had nothing to report this month.
2. **Planning Board Liaison:** Casey had nothing to report this month.
3. **Public Safety Liaison:** Lynn reported that Rebecca Martin and Jennifer Schwartz Berky discussed Municipal Home Rule Law Section 23 exceptions to referendum requirements regarding charter change with respect to a possible council resolution regarding water decisions which information may require an opinion from the City corporation counsel.
4. **Comprehensive Plan Liaison:** Julie reported that comments submitted during the recently ended public comment period have been posted online but that the next meeting has not yet been scheduled.
5. **Climate Smart Kingston Commission:** Julie indicated that the next meeting is 4-29-15 4:30PM and that applications for membership and appointments are pending.

**VII. Adjournment:** Upon motion duly made by Casey and seconded by Lynn the council members unanimously approved a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 PM

**VIII. Next Meeting:** A Special Meeting shall be held on May 4 at 6:30 PM to review NRI Mapping and Matt Akin instruct the Council on the use of GIS online mapping tools and software.

**Mission:** Ensure the conservation of the City of Kingston's natural resources and the enhancement and protection of its environment while fostering unified action on environmental matters.